

# ***urgent***

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f a c s i m i l e

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**Subject:** Microsoft

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**1341 East Oakridge Road N**  
**Park City, Utah 84098**

January 20, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to express my exasperation with the court proceedings in the Microsoft antitrust case. I cannot believe that the case has dragged on for this long and that now, when a settlement has finally been reached, some people refuse to accept the terms of the settlement and wish further federal action to be taken against Microsoft. Additional litigation would be entirely counterproductive in this matter, and I do not believe it is wise.

Microsoft has been fairly dealt with in this case, and has actually agreed to terms under the settlement that extend to products and procedures that were not found to be unlawful by the Court of Appeals. Microsoft has accepted the terms and they appear to be more than fair to the plaintiff states. For example, Microsoft has agreed to provide anyone acting under the terms of the agreement with a license to applicable intellectual property rights. Microsoft has also agreed to document and disclose source code, interfaces, and protocols integral to the Windows operating system for use by their competitors.

The settlement is fine; further litigation would be redundant, expensive, and wholly unnecessary. I ask you not to condone the inexplicable litigious behavior of the nine plaintiff states and to allow the settlement to stand.

Sincerely,

  
Tara Erickson

cc: Representative Chris Cannon